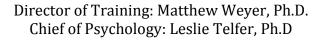
PSYCHOLOGY INTERNSHIP BROCHURE

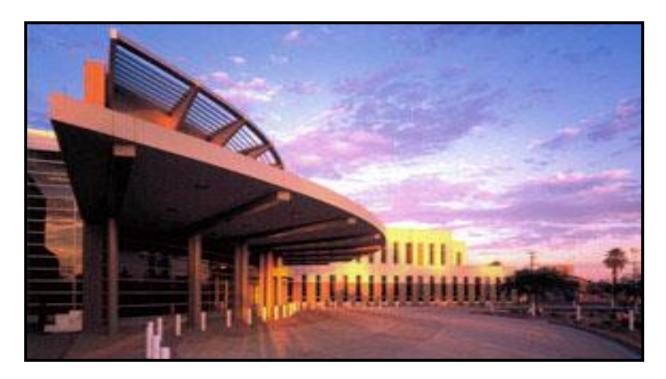


Phoenix VA Health Care System

Psychology Internship Training Program
Psychology Section (116B)
650 East Indian School Road
Phoenix, Arizona 85012







Application Due Date: November 13, 2015 Start Date: August 8, 2016

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for expressing an interest in the Phoenix VA Health Care System's Psychology Internship Program. We currently offer training to seven pre-doctoral interns. Our goals are multifaceted and are focused on developing well-rounded, effective, ethical, and professional psychologists. Our strengths and emphases are in *Health Psychology, Neuropsychology, Interprofessional Mental Health, and PTSD/Mental Health.* However, our training and supervision are intended to develop individualized skills relevant to the general practice of psychology.

You will find that a collegial relationship exists between training faculty and interns. Psychology interns are expected to be professionally responsible and are encouraged to accept as much responsibility and autonomy as their current levels of knowledge and skill will allow. All clinical work performed by psychology interns is reviewed and supervised by a diverse group of licensed staff psychologists.

The training program places priority on the involvement of psychology interns in direct patient care. As such, interns are expected to engage in a minimum of 500 total hours of direct patient care while on internship. Clinical responsibilities are assigned by "track" with a minimum of half time commitment during the training year met in Health Psychology, Neuropsychology, Interprofessional Mental Health, or PTSD/Mental Health. The remaining time is tailored to the interests and/or training needs of the intern.

Additionally, there is a weekly didactic training seminar, which includes topics in psychotherapy, health psychology, neuropsychology, interprofessional skills, ethics, diversity, health care practices, preparing for licensure, and more. Guest speakers from the community and from other VA disciplines are involved in training.

We are excited about your interest in our psychology internship program and look forward to reviewing your application. Please feel free to contact us with questions as you progress through the application process.

Sincerely,

The Phoenix VAHCS Internship Training Committee

APA ACCREDITATION STATUS

The predoctoral internship at the Phoenix VA Health Care System (VAHCS) has been accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) since 1999. The program recently was reviewed by the Commission on Accreditation and was awarded the maximum 7 years of full accreditation. The next site visit will be during the academic year 2019. For further information on program accreditation, please contact:

American Psychological Association Commission on Accreditation 750 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002-4242

Phone: 202-336-5979 www.apa.org/ed/accreditation

APPIC MEMBERSHIP

The Phoenix VAHCS is a member of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC). This internship site agrees to abide by the APPIC policy that no person at this training facility will solicit, or accept for use any ranking-related information from any applicant. The APPIC Match Policies can be found at their website at: http://www.appic.org/d08match-policies.html.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY

Our internship site maintains a strong commitment to diversity among staff and trainees, as exemplified by our past success in the recruitment and retention of individuals of diverse backgrounds at the intern, postdoctoral, and staff levels. As a federal employer, our facility and department of Psychology strongly adhere to policies on non-discrimination and accommodations to facilitate success in our internship. As an equal opportunity training program, our internship welcomes and strongly encourages applications from all qualified applicants, regardless of racial, ethnic, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or other minority status.

The Phoenix VA Psychology Department believes that diversity presents in multiple facets. As a program, we place high value on diversity recognition and sensitivity and maintain a yearly diversity seminar among interns and postdoctoral residents. This seminar is highly celebrated by trainees as a place where personal beliefs and feelings can be discussed, explored, and shared. In addition to the diversity seminar, our department also hosts Diversity Committee meetings as well as diversity "lunch-n-learns" where Psychology staff and trainees are invited to join in the programming and discussions. These experiences highlight the presence of diversity around our facility, in current events, and in our communities. In doing so, diversity awareness among staff and trainees is continually developing and we feel we have successfully developed an atmosphere of respect in moving toward enhanced diversity knowledge, awareness and skills. Trainees and staff are expected to demonstrate competence in working with culturally and individually diverse clients and interdisciplinary peers. Seminars offer trainees a more intimate setting wherein cultural

competence may be further fostered and developed while staff activities and meetings help to cultivate this same goal in the workplace at large. Among topics discussed over the course of the year in various diversity-related meetings and seminars, are working in a hospital and military culture; working with clients of different ethnic and socioeconomic background; understanding diversity in gender and sexual identity; and overcoming microaggressions in clinical practice.

APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCEDURES

REQUIREMENTS

The *minimum* requirements for entry into the training program are as follows:

- United States Citizenship
- Verification of Selective Service Registration (Male applicants born after 12-31-1959 must sign a pre-appointment Certification Statement for Selective Service Registration)
- Enrollment in an APA accredited Doctoral Program of Clinical or Counseling Psychology
- Admission as a Doctoral Candidate in graduate program
- Comprehensive examinations passed prior to beginning internship
- Dissertation proposal approved
- A minimum of 500 total hours practicum experience
- Clinical experience with adult populations in a variety of clinical settings

APPLICATION MATERIALS

<u>Students interested in applying for our internship program must submit the following under APPIC</u> electronic submission guidelines:

- Application Form
- Curriculum Vita
- Official Graduate Transcript(s)
- Three letters of recommendation

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

All APPIC applications must be submitted electronically following APPIC guidelines (www.appic.org)

- Submit application materials electronically by *November 13, 2015.*
- Approximately 40 applicants will be notified of interview offers by *December 15, 2015*. Interviews are held during the first two weeks of January.
- The format of the interviews includes an overview of the program, followed by individual interviews with 7 supervisors and contact with current psychology interns.
- To be fair to all applicants, particularly those interviewing early in the process, a quick group photo will be taken each interview day in order to assist our memories during the selection process. Participation is strictly **optional**. Photographs will be destroyed after selection day.
- Once all interviews are completed, the training committee prepares four separate lists for each of the specialty tracks with a corresponding Match Number in bold: Neuropsychology (167112), Health Psychology (167113), PTSD/Mental Health (167114) and Interprofessional Mental Health (167115).
- Applicants should feel free to e-mail the Training Director for any clarification of procedures or questions about the internship at Matthew.Weyer@va.gov.

PHOENIX VA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

The Phoenix VAHCS is a tertiary care and training facility with 150 medical/surgical beds, 48 psychiatric beds, and a 110-bed community living center. The hospital has been providing service to veterans in Maricopa County since 1951. In 2013 the medical center had over 800,000 visits with a total veteran enrollment of over 80,000. The hospital has a well-equipped and attractive physical facility located in central Phoenix. The hospital has facilities for audio and video recording and its computer system supports e-mail, Internet access, word processing, and fully automated patient records. The VA medical library can provide literature searches for education or patient care. In addition, literature searches through MedLine and PsycINFO can be conducted by psychology interns in their offices. Each psychology intern has a computer which has access to the internet, computerized psychological testing, e-mail and online training opportunities.

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

The Psychology Department of the Phoenix VAHCS is committed to excellence in training and service. The faculty is heterogeneous in terms of educational and theoretical backgrounds, which makes possible a wide range of orientations for instruction, observation, role modeling, and professional development. The Psychology Department faculty contributes to the larger community by donation of personal and professional services to community groups, participation in university activities, and private practice outside the Medical Center. Our faculty has held and currently holds elected and appointed leadership positions in local, state and national professional associations and groups.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

*Matthew Weyer, Ph.D.*Training Director

*Tim S. Ayers, Ph.D.*Assistant Training Director

The Training Director and Assistant Training Director are responsible for the coordination, oversight, and day-to-day operation of the Psychology Training Program. An Executive Training Committee periodically reviews all aspects of the training program and when necessary recommends changes in procedures and policy. Additionally, the Training Committee which is composed of current supervisors meets monthly to monitor the progress of interns on each rotation. This committee attempts to ensure continuity of training among various rotations and training settings, and is responsible for all routine training activities. Final decisions regarding the Psychology Training Program are the responsibility of the Chief of Psychology, Leslie Telfer, Ph.D.

TRAINING MODEL AND PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The philosophy of our internship program mirrors the mission of the Phoenix VAHCS in the context of the internship's role as a primary source of experiential training in professional psychology practice. Our primary educational model is the practitioner scholar model, which emphasizes clinical practice and the importance of using theory and research to inform practice (Rodolfa, Kaslow, Stewart, Keilin & Baker, 2005). The primary goal of training in our practitioner scholar model is the delivery of human services that take into account individual, cultural, and societal considerations. The program is built around the foundational and functional competencies defined by the APA's Assessment of Competency Benchmarks Work Group (Fouad, Grus, Hatcher, Kaslow, Smith Hutchings, Madson, Collins Jr., & Crossman, 2009; Rodolfa, Bent, Eisman, Nelson, Rehm & Ritchie, 2005). The work group defined foundational competencies as "the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values that serve as the foundation for the functions a psychologist is expected to carry out, (e.g., an understanding of ethics, awareness and understanding of individual and cultural diversity issues, knowledge of the scientific foundations of psychology)." They defined functional competencies as encompassing the major functions that psychologists are expected to perform, "each of which requires reflective integration of foundational competencies in problem identification and resolution" (e.g., assessment, intervention, consultation, supervision).

The philosophy at the Phoenix VAHCS Psychology Internship Program is consistent with the Association of Counseling Center Training Agencies' (ACCTA) definition of practitioner scholar programs that includes "empirically supported treatments, a value on the psychologist as a consumer of research, recognition of the importance of generating knowledge through practice, and an expectation that interns participate in scholarly activities." Our style of instruction utilizes a developmental model that "nurtures people in making the transition from trainee to competent autonomous professional, thus helping them to integrate their personal and professional selves; places a high value on respecting the diversity and uniqueness of every individual; and underscores the importance of supervisory relationship and the mentoring process" (Rodolfa, et al., 2005). Our program maintains a generalist focus, fostering general competence over specialization.

PROGRAM GOAL, OBJECTIVES, and COMPETENCIES

The **overall training goal** at the Phoenix VAHCS is for interns to develop the knowledge and skills necessary for postdoctoral or entry-level professional practice in clinical or counseling psychology across the following training objectives:

Objective #1: Develop intermediate to advanced *Foundational* Competencies in professional psychology

Associated Competencies:

• Competency in Law and Ethics

Understands and applies ethical concepts and the law to professional activities with individuals, groups, and organizations.

• Competency in Professional Intrapersonal Behavior

Demonstrates attention to personal presence, awareness of self, and/or how beliefs or feelings may be impacting professional roles and practice.

• Competency in Professional Interpersonal Behavior

Demonstrates professional and appropriate interactions with patients, teams, staff, peers, and faculty.

• Competency in Interprofessional Skills

Demonstrates knowledge and skills to support effective multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary team functioning.

• Competency in Documentation, Efficiency and Accountability

Demonstrates timely and thorough documentation and efficient use of time.

Competency in Understanding of Diversity

Demonstrates sensitivity to patient cultural diversity, including race, ethnicity, religion, country of birth, gender, social class, age, sexual orientation, disability and health status, and other individual difference variables. Consistently achieves a good rapport with patients and co-workers from diverse backgrounds.

• Competency in Application of Scientific Knowledge to Practice Implements current scientific knowledge to guide clinical practice.

Objective #2: Develop intermediate to advanced *Functional* Competencies competencies in professional psychology.

Competence in Psychological Diagnosis and Assessment

• Competency in the Clinical Interview

Conducts an interview-based evaluation to inform diagnostic impression and case conceptualization.

Competency in Medical Record Review

Demonstrates ability to review medical records and related documents.

Competency in Assessment Instruments

Choose and administer standardized tests and/or structured interviews.

Competency in Interpretation and Integrative Case Conceptualization

Provide integrative interpretation of test data in light of full clinical picture.

• Competency in Assessment Feedback

Provides useful psychological assessment feedback.

• Competency in Risk Assessment

Evaluates risk issues.

<u>Competence in Psychotherapeutic Interventions</u>

- Competency in Case Conceptualization and Treatment Goals
 Demonstrates the capacity to conceptualize treatment cases and formulate goals for treatment.
- Competency in Effectiveness in Therapeutic Interventions Effectively implements therapeutic interventions.
- Competency in Effectiveness in Group Interventions
 Demonstrates competence in implementing group and/or couple / family therapy modalities.
- Competency in Risk Monitoring
 Demonstrates ability to monitor risk issues.

Specialty Competencies

- Competency in Consultation
- Competency in Program Evaluation
- Competency in Supervision Skills

SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF PROGRAM/EXIT CRITERIA

Successful completion of the program is determined by the training committee. The program requires interns to be onsite for the full duration of the training year, engage in a minimum of 500 total hours of direct patient care, and receive satisfactory supervisory evaluations in all core training areas as reflected by the Intern Rating Form. More specifically, competencies will be rated on a 7 point Likert ranging including ratings of "Proficient," "Advanced," "Intermediate," "Novice," or "Needs Remediation" levels. By the end of the training year, 80% of the intern's Competencies must be at the Advanced or Proficient Levels to meet the minimal levels of achievement for successful program completion. A maximum of 20% of an Intern's Competencies can be at the Intermediate level. Furthermore, no items can be rated at the Novice or Needs Remediation level. Interns must also complete three professional presentations over the training year.

It is noteworthy that the program has successfully graduated all interns and historically all interns have secured either postdoctoral training positions or employment prior to the completion of internship.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROGRAM STRUCUTRE

The Psychology Internship Program at the Phoenix VAHCS currently offers training to seven predoctoral interns in general clinical psychology with emphases in the areas of Health Psychology, Neuropsychology, Interprofessional Mental Health, and PTSD/Mental Health. The psychology intern's program is individualized to fit his or her needs and interests. In our program, we encourage interns to observe and experience a variety of supervisory and clinical models. As the interns progress in the program and their professional skills and duties develop and expand, they assume greater responsibility in the clinical setting.

At the end of each clinical rotation, interns are evaluated on the previously described goals and competencies. Copies of evaluation tools and associated policy are available for review during

interviews. In evaluating interns' performance and progress, applicable statutes and policies concerning due process and fair treatment are followed.

Upon successful completion of the yearlong internship, all interns will receive a certificate that indicates they have successfully completed a psychology internship. In addition, a final letter of evaluation will be sent to each intern's respective academic program indicating successful completion of the predoctoral internship. This letter serves as partial fulfillment of the requirements for a doctoral degree in clinical or counseling psychology. The letter will further detail each intern's experiences in the internship training program and provide an overall summary evaluation.

FUNDING/BENEFITS/LEAVE

VA-funded psychology interns are paid a full-time stipend of \$24,520, and payments are every two weeks for a full year. Health insurance is available at employee copay rates. Training stipends are taxable. The Phoenix VAMC does not offer part-time or unfunded intern training positions.

The official internship year will begin on **August 8, 2016** and end on August 4, 2017. Interns earn four hours of annual leave and four hours of sick leave every two weeks. Additionally, interns are granted five days of authorized absence (i.e., time allowed for attending or presenting at conferences, dissertation defense). Interns are also allowed up to 3 days of leave to attend postdoctoral interviews at other VA facilities. Finally, interns receive ten paid federal holidays.

FACILITY AND TRAINING RESOURCES

The Psychology Department recently moved to a newly constructed area of the main hospital. Interns share a large conference room with computers, phones and a printer. There are dedicated therapy and assessment offices for intern use. Furthermore, some of the minor rotations offer a dedicated office space for interns. Interns have access to a refrigerator and microwave for shared use. The Psychology Department shares a clerk who provides assistance to interns with procurement of supplies and various administrative tasks.

PHOENIX: A GREAT PLACE TO TRAIN AND LIVE

Metropolitan Phoenix is the fifth largest city in America with a population of more than three million. Despite its size, it remains affordable as compared to other large U.S. cities. Phoenix has striking architecture with Mexican, Spanish and Native American influences. Frank Lloyd Wright and his students designed several local buildings, homes and churches. Phoenix's principal industries are manufacturing of high technology products, agriculture, and tourism.

Phoenix has much to offer lovers of fine arts. Many cultural events are presented by entities such as the Phoenix Symphony Orchestra, the Phoenix Chamber Music Society, Scottsdale Center for Arts, and Ballet Arizona. The Arizona Opera Theater Company presents its season at the Herberger Theater. Phoenix has several specialized theater groups as well. The Heard Museum houses a renowned collection of Native American art and culture. The Phoenix Art Museum has a fine permanent collection and mounts several shows each year.

Phoenix offers over 300 days of sunshine; thus many year-round sporting activities are prevalent. Near Phoenix there are six man-made lakes where boating, fishing, and water skiing can be enjoyed. Arizona has three ski resorts, depending on snowfall. Phoenix is home to four major league professional sports teams: NBA's Phoenix Suns, NFL's Arizona Cardinals, MLB's Arizona Diamondbacks, and NHL's Phoenix Coyotes. Several major annual sporting events take place in Phoenix, including PGA and LPGA golf tournaments, and auto racing.

Arizona State University is located in Tempe, approximately 20 minutes from central Phoenix. The university library system is extensive and includes both an academic and a scientific branch. The Phoenix area also has many community colleges. The area has some private colleges as well, such as Grand Canyon University, University of Phoenix, and the Thunderbird American Graduate School of International Management.

Pine forests are a two-hour drive from the city. The Grand Canyon is a four-hour drive to the north. The beaches of Mexico are a four-hour drive to the south. Sky Harbor International Airport provides daily connections to all major international airports. For additional information about the Phoenix metropolitan areas please go to: www.visitphoenix.com.

THE TRAINING EXPERIENCE

The training program places high priority on the involvement of psychology interns in providing direct patient care. Clinical experiences are obtained through major and minor rotations, and long-term psychotherapy rotations. Additionally, professional skills are developed in the areas of assessment, program evaluation, consultation, and supervision.

Rotation Experiences

The Phoenix VAHCS has created three types of rotations to provide a comprehensive and generalist training experience for our interns: major, minor, and required.

<u>Major Rotation:</u> The first type of rotation is based on the specialty track chosen by each intern. This will constitute at least 50% of the training year, e.g. Health Psychology, Neuropsychology, Interprofessional Mental Health, and PTSD/Mental Health emphasis (see yellow shaded areas below). Interns have the opportunity to work with a variety of training faculty in each of these specialty areas.

<u>Minor Rotation:</u> Second, in collaboration with the training committee, interns select minor rotations to fulfill their training needs. These minor rotations are six months in duration and are offered in a variety of clinics, including Mental Health, PTSD, Health Psychology, Interprofessional Mental Health, Neuropsychology and the Post Deployment OEF/OIF/OND Clinic (see blue shaded areas below).

Required Rotation: Given that our program is a generalist training program, the third rotation, the Mental Health Therapy and Assessment Rotation, is required for all interns. During this rotation, interns will receive intensive training in evidence based psychotherapy and psychological assessment in our mental health clinic. This rotation is 6 months in duration, 12

hours per week and can be completed in the first or second half of the internship year (see green shaded areas below).

A sample of past intern's schedules is shown below. Please note that the following is an example and there are several different options for building your training experience during the year depending on personal and professional preferences and training needs as well as rotation/staff availability:

Intern #1 HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY TRACK

Rotation 1	Rotation 2	Rotation 3	Rotation 4
Health Psych		Health Psych	Pain Psychology
Burgess		M. Weyer	Okvat
(20 hrs)		(16 hrs)	(16 hrs)
		Interprofessional Mental Health Clinic	
		Straits-Troster (16 hrs	5)
Mental Health Therapy	and Assessment		
Gabriel (12 hrs)			

Intern #2 HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY TRACK

Rotation 1	Rotation 2	Rotation 3	Rotation 4
Health Psych		Pain Psychology	
M. Weyer		Okvat (16 hrs)	
(20 hrs)			
		PTSD Clinic	
Mental Health and Assess Hekler (12 hrs)	ment Clinic	Luedtke (16 hrs)	

Intern #3 GENERAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGY TRACK

Rotation 1	Rotation 2	Rotation 3	Rotation 4
General		OEF/OIF/OND	
Neuropsych		Neuropsych Bushnell (20 hrs)	
Walters			
(24 hrs)			
		Mental Health and Asse	ssment Clinic
Interprofessional Menta	l Health Clinic	Beck (12 hrs)	
Averyt (8hrs)			

Intern #4 OEF/OIF/OND NEUROPSYCHOLOGY TRACK

Rotation 1	Rotation 2	Rotation 3	Rotation 4
OEF/OIF/OND		General Neuropsych	General Neuropsych
Neuropsych		Olson	De La Rosa
Bushnell		(20 hrs)	(20 hrs)
(24 hrs)			
		Mental Health and Assessment Clinic	
Post Deployment Health (Clinic	Hamilton (12 hrs)	
A. Weyer (8hrs)			

Intern #5 with INTERPROFESSIONAL MENTAL HEALTH TRACK

Rotation 1	Rotation 2	Rotation 3	Rotation 4
Interprofessional Mental Health		Health Psych	Health Psych
Choca		Weyer	Burgess
(20 hrs)		(16 hrs)	(16 hrs)
		PTSD Clinic	
Mental Health and Assess Doyle (12 hrs)	ment Clinic	Ayers (16 hrs)	

Intern #6 with PTSD/MENTAL HEALTH TRACK

Rotation 1	Rotation 2	Rotation 3	Rotation 4
PTSD CLINIC		PTSD CLINIC	
Ayers		Kattar (16 hrs)	
(16 hrs)			
		Health Psych Clinic	
Mental Health and Assess	ment Clinic	Burgess (16 hrs)	
Hamilton (16 hrs)			

Intern #7 with PTSD/MENTAL HEALTH TRACK

Rotation 1	Rotation 2	Rotation 3	Rotation 4
Mental Heath and Assessr	Mental Heath and Assessment Clinic		
Grant		Ayers (16 hrs)	
(16 hrs)			
		Interprofessional Mental	Health Clinic
PTSD Clinic		Choca (16 hrs)	
Luedtke (16hrs)			

Major Rotation: 3 or 6 months

Minor Rotation: 6 months

Required Rotation: 6 months

ASSESSMENT EXPERIENCE

Interns will regularly participate in the types of assessment normatively done within their selected rotations. For instance, interns will regularly complete diagnostic intake interviews in their respective clinics. They will also be asked to complete more comprehensive personality assessment batteries when indicated and will be required to utilize assessment tools to assess treatment progress in their ongoing psychotherapy cases.

In addition, each intern will complete the required Mental Health Therapy and Assessment Rotation (see above). In this rotation, interns will be supervised by a psychologist and will work in an interdisciplinary treatment team within the mental health clinic. During this rotation, interns will spend a portion of their time in psychological assessment related experiences. More specifically, interns will be required to perform diagnostic intakes for individuals who are seeking treatment in the outpatient mental health clinic. When indicated, more formal assessment batteries will be completed to address complex referral questions. These batteries will often involve testing to determine appropriate treatment options for the more complicated clinical issues treated in this setting. This requirement gives all psychology interns the opportunity to be supervised in test administration, interpretation, and report writing.

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Interns are expected to present three formal 45-minute presentations (a didactic presentation, a case presentation that highlights diversity, and an end of the year program evaluation presentation) to members of the training committee. This allows interns to practice presentation skills and obtain feedback from peers and staff. This is a wonderful opportunity to develop presentation skills for future job experiences.

SUPERVISION

One of the strengths of our internship program is the variety and quality of supervision offered. We have a training committee that consists of seasoned clinicians with diverse theoretical backgrounds and clinical expertise. The vast majority of the training committee has received formal training in one or more of the evidenced based therapies (e.g., Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT), Prolonged Exposure (PE), Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), Motivational Interviewing (MI) and Acceptance Commitment Therapy (ACT). Furthermore, we are proud to have staff that have served or currently serve as national trainers and national consultants in PE, CPT, and CBT. This type of quality supervision affords the intern the opportunity to learn a variety of theoretical orientations, techniques and skills. Supervision is tailored to the intern's needs and skill level and is provided in the following formats:

ROTATION SUPERVISION

Psychology interns receive individual supervision by rotation supervisors for a minimum of three hours per week. There is additional time for supervision on a less formal basis as supervisors are readily available for questions and the interns' need for guidance. Interns are trained in various evidence-based psychotherapies which differ according to the chosen clinic. For example, an intern assigned to the PTSD clinic might be trained in CPT and PE protocols. An intern assigned to the Health Psychology rotation would likely receive additional training in CBT, MI, ACT and clinical hypnosis.

GROUP SUPERVISION

Psychology interns receive a fourth hour of formal supervision through weekly group supervision. There are two components to this experience. First, interns will receive education about the fundamentals of clinical supervision which include assigned readings, case study and role play experience. This training helps to prepare interns to provide supervision as professional psychologists. Second, interns also receive case consultation in a group format. Interns will discuss current cases with their peers and the group supervisor.

DIDACTIC TRAININGS

In order to facilitate the learning process that occurs on internship, rich didactic experiences are offered in the following areas:

- 1. We provide an Intern Didactic Seminar Series that meets weekly for three hours and consists of topics such as ethics, diversity, clinical therapy and assessment
 - Cases are also presented during the Didactic Seminar Series by supervising staff and interns. The seminars have multiple purposes including the opportunity to practice presenting difficult or interesting clinical cases, to teach and learn from colleagues, and to stimulate interest in a variety of diagnostic and therapeutic interventions.
 - Research articles and literature relevant to cases are also disseminated and discussed.

- 2. Specialty training in the areas of Health Psychology, Neuropsychology, PTSD/Mental Health and Interprofessional Mental Health are offered on a weekly basis.
 - The Health Psychology Series focuses on different systems of the body and examines the interaction between these systems and psychological factors. This series is offered on the first Tuesday of the month.
 - The Neuropsychology Series focuses on neuroanatomy and specific dysfunctions of the brain. The Neuropsychology Series meets on the second Tuesday of every month.
 - The Mental Health/PTSD Psychotherapy Series work with trainees to learn advanced psychotherapy skills and evidence based treatments. This series is offered on the third Tuesday of the month.
 - The Interprofessional Mental Health Series focuses on interprofessional core competencies and includes speakers from different disciplines including psychiatry, pharmacy, social work and psychology. This series is offered on the fourth Tuesday of the month.
- 3. As noted above, interns receive education about the fundamentals of clinical supervision and role play supervision sessions with fellow classmates both in an individual and group format. These supervision sessions are audio taped (individual supervision format) or directly observed (group supervision format) and reviewed by a licensed psychologist so feedback can be provided to the intern regarding their supervisory style and competence.
 - The goal is to ensure a basic level of competence for interns to begin supervision in a professional setting upon graduation.
- 4. A clinical hypnosis training seminar is offered to our interns and postdoctoral fellows. In this seminar, psychology interns learn the basic components of clinical hypnosis including inductions, deepening techniques and therapeutic interventions.
 - Once obtained, these skills can be used with veterans with a variety of problems including anxiety and depression, psychophysiology based disorders as well as for smoking cessation and weight management.
- 5. A Motivational Interviewing (MI) training seminar is offered early in the year to train interns in this invaluable skill.
 - Following a 2-4 session didactic series, interns meet with staff to practice skills and receive feedback on MI.
- 6. Interns are provided the opportunity (although not required) to complete a three day workshop in Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT) led by Dr. Karen Kattar, one of the national trainers in CPT.
 - After completing the workshop, interns participate in a weekly consultation group led by Dr. Kattar and can receive certification in this evidence based therapy.
- 7. Interns are provided the opportunity (although not required) to complete a two day workshop in Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) led by Dr. Spencer Beck
 - After completing the workshop, interns have the opportunity to participate in a weekly consultation group and see patients in both individually and in a group format.

- 8. Learning opportunities are also available by attending Medical Grand Rounds, periodic offerings in the Department of Mental Health and satellite training that is transmitted nationwide in the VA System.
 - Many additional training opportunities are offered hospital wide through the Research and Education Department.
- 9. A wide range of continuing education opportunities are available for interns to attend. As noted earlier, an attractive aspect of our training program is that psychology interns can be authorized administrative absence to attend professionally related experiences such as conferences and workshops if approved by the Training Director.
- 10. Depending on the rotation and if their work schedules permit, there may be an opportunity for interns to be involved in research. Current research projects within the department include an investigation of traumatic brain injury screening within a primary care setting, the role of social support in treatment adherence with Veterans who are engaging in CPT or PE therapies, and program evaluation of evidence based practices at the VA (e.g., CBT for Insomnia). As noted previously, interns also receive formal training in program evaluation and complete an individual research project in this area.

MAJOR AND MINOR ROTATIONS

HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY TRACK

The Health Psychology track provides psychology interns the opportunity to enhance skills in conceptualizing psychological approaches to problems of health and illness. The Health Psychology Team is a consultation-based work team. Consults and referrals are received from Primary Care as well as from most specialty medical clinics throughout the medical center. Consults are received from the following specialty areas: Rheumatology, Gastroenterology, Speech and Language Pathology, Dietetics, Neurology, Neuropsychology, Dental Clinic, Cardiology, Endocrinology, Oncology, Spinal Cord Injury Team, and Neurosurgery.

<u>Health Psychology</u>: Smoking Cessation, Weight Management, Transplant Evaluations, Bariatric Pre-Surgical Evaluations, and General Medical Psychology <u>Supervising Psychologist</u>: Lisa Burgess, Ph.D.

On this major or minor rotation, interns will focus primarily on developing skills in consultation to the medical population and working to support providers in their interactions with patients. Both group and individual therapy modalities are used. Training is also provided in psychological assessment as it relates to pre-surgical evaluations. Dr. Burgess is the Health Behavior Coordinator for the Phoenix VA Health Care System. She specializes in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Interpersonal Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, and Mindfulness-based interventions. Within this role there are opportunities for both a clinical and a programmatic focus, as described below.

Within the therapy area, psychology interns will participate in work with individual, medical psychology clients. They will also participate in group intervention through the MOVE! weight management and Smoking Cessation Programs. Interns will initially co--facilitate and move to facilitating these groups. Within the assessment area, psychology interns will also conduct insulin pump, pre-bariatric and organ transplant evaluations (i.e., heart, stem cell, bone marrow, liver, and

kidney). These consist of a structured interview, paired with varying levels of cognitive and psychological assessment. Protocols vary by patient need and VA guidelines. Within the programmatic area, there are opportunities for interns to participate in clinician coaching. In this role the intern will work with a variety of medical professionals, supporting their use of motivational interviewing skills with patients.

HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY: CHRONIC PAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM SUPERVISING PSYCHOLOGIST: HEATHER A. OKVAT, Ph.D.

This minor rotation provides psychology interns with the opportunity to expand their assessment and intervention skills with people living with chronic pain. Interns will conduct psychological assessments of outpatients with chronic pain, lead orientations to the biopsychosocial model of chronic pain management, and co-facilitate group therapy focused on living well despite pain. Individual therapy is also possible depending on patient needs. Interns will be guided in the use of cognitive behavioral therapy and mindfulness-based approaches to chronic pain, offering important adjuncts and alternatives to chronic opioid medication therapy. This rotation also offers the opportunity to work with an interdisciplinary team that includes primary care providers, nursing, pharmacy, addictions psychiatry, and physical medicine and rehabilitation, with potential for codisciplinary visits.

HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY: GENERAL HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY, CBT, CLINICAL HYPNOSIS AND EMDR SUPERVISING PSYCHOLOGIST: MATTHEW WEYER, Ph.D.

This major or minor rotation provides psychology interns with the opportunity to expand their skills in both group process as well individual therapy skills in the area of Health Psychology. Psychology interns working on this rotation will be exposed to variety of interesting individual cases. Although Dr. Weyer's case load primarily consists of standard behavioral medicine cases (e.g., obesity, chronic pain), he typically does receive more unusual consults related to such things as medical phobias (e.g., white coat hypertension or needle phobia) or adherence issues. Interns working with Dr. Weyer will have the opportunity to learn Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, EMDR and clinical hypnosis. Because of the strong mind-body connection, Dr. Weyer utilizes alternative methods to work with his patients. As part of this rotation, psychology interns will have the opportunity to sit in with Dr. Weyer to observe the use of clinical hypnosis as well as receive supervision in this area. Dr. Weyer also utilizes EMDR with many of his patients to help process past traumas that may be impacting or contributing to their physical and emotional well-being. Finally, psychology interns have the opportunity to participate in the Coping with Tinnitus and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy-Insomnia groups. Psychology interns initially observe or co-facilitate the group before eventually leading their own groups.

INTERPROFESSIONAL MENTAL HEALTH TRACK

<u>PC-MHI PSYCHOLOGY</u>: BRIEF CBT INTERVENTIONS, MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING, MINDFULNESS, CONSULTATION <u>SUPERVISING PSYCHOLOGISTS</u>: KRISTY STRAITS-TROSTER, Ph.D., ABPP, PEDRO CHOCA, Ph.D. AND JENNIFER AVERYT, Ph.D.

The Primary Care Mental Health Integration rotation provides psychology interns the opportunity to develop skills in functional assessment, problem-focused case conceptualization and brief psychotherapy in busy primary care medicine clinics. As a member of the Veteran-focused Patient Aligned Clinical Team (PACT), psychology interns work closely with Depression Care Managers (nurses), PCMHI psychiatrists, primary care doctors, pharmacy residents, social work students, nurses and support staff to address mental health issues presented as part of the Veteran's primary care visit. Population- based integrated care provides triage and treatment in a stepped care model for a broad range of medical and psychological issues. Therapeutic approaches may include motivational interviewing, brief CBT for depression and anxiety, mindfulness training, referral to MH and Health Psychology groups or referral to specialty care MH. PCMHI groups are in development to address common presenting issues (e.g., insomnia). A component of this rotation is to learn interprofessional skills working closely with residents in psychiatry and pharmacy as well as social work students. Interprofessional education is provided and interns work on an interprofessional project with students from other disciplines.

NEUROPSYCHOLOGY TRACK

Psychology interns may elect to obtain specialized training in clinical neuropsychology. Training in neuropsychology can be obtained in both outpatient and inpatient settings, although the great majority of training is with outpatients. Psychology interns have the opportunity to learn a variety of fundamental neuropsychological assessment skills with a diverse veteran population. There are two rotation types in neuropsychology: General Neuropsychology and OEF/OIF/OND Neuropsychology.

<u>General Neuropsychology</u>: Neurologic, Psychiatric, General Medical <u>Supervising Psychologists</u>: Mia De La Rosa, Ph.D., Karen Olson, Ph.D., and Gina Walters, Ph.D.

This rotation involves working primarily with outpatients referred by mental health and neurology. There are also a subset of referrals from the specialty clinics (e.g. Endocrinology Clinic) and the primary care clinics. There are a wide variety of patients and referral questions. Interns in this rotation can expect to see veterans with dementia, CVA, TBI, seizure disorders, multiple sclerosis, bipolar disorder, PTSD, schizophrenia spectrum disorders, and a variety of other medical disorders. Examples of referral questions include differential diagnosis of dementia, capacity to make decisions, and ruling out a cognitive disorder in veterans who have a history of substance abuse or remote head injury.

Neurology referrals typically include cases involving dementia, stroke, traumatic brain injury, anoxia, and tumors. There are also opportunities to perform evaluations from referral sources such as psychiatry and vocational rehabilitation which often involve multi-axial diagnoses and differential rule outs. The focus of this rotation involves developing skills in administration,

scoring, and interpretation, writing reports and communicating results of evaluative data to patients, family and/or other interdisciplinary professional staff.

Outpatient referral sources include the mental health clinic, primary care and specialty medical clinics, PTSD clinic. Specialty medical clinic referral sources include the Substance Abuse Clinic (SAC), Endocrinology, the Speech and Language Pathology Clinic, and others.

Psychology interns typically work with a variety of outpatients, but there are opportunities for evaluating inpatients from medical and psychiatric floors as well as from the Community Living Center. There are opportunities to be involved in conducting evaluations for determination of capacity during this rotation. Outpatient referral sources include the mental health clinic, primary care and specialty medical clinics, PTSD clinic. Specialty medical clinic referral sources include the Substance Abuse Clinic (SAC), Endocrinology, the Speech and Language Pathology Clinic, and others.

This rotation is offered as a major or a minor rotation. Interns in the neuropsychology track will be expected to independently administer and score neuropsychological tests, conduct effective interviews with patients and family members, write reports, and provide testing feedback by the end of the rotation.

<u>OEF/OIF/OND Neuropsychology</u>: OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM/OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM/OPERATION NEW DAWN (OEF/OIF/OND) VETERANS.

<u>Supervising Psychologists</u>: Mary Lu Bushnell, Psy.D.

Dr. Bushnell primarily provides supervision on this rotation. The rotation has an emphasis on working with OEF/OIF/OND veterans who have exposure to combat blasts and/or other types of traumatic brain injury. Veterans who have been exposed blasts, motor vehicle accidents or other potential neurological insult are evaluated to rule out or identify cognitive deficits. Psychology interns will learn about the effects of blast injury and the physiological events that follow a traumatic brain injury. Differential diagnosis between the cognitive effects of PTSD and TBI is the primary referral question in this population. This rotation is offered on a part time and/or full time basis.

The psychology intern will have an opportunity to be involved with the "Brain Boosters" Cognitive Enhancement Group for veterans with mild TBI and/or PTSD. This 10-week group combines didactic presentations and experiential cognitive rehabilitation exercises in order to help group members learn how to optimize their strengths and enhance their brain functioning. The intern will also have the opportunity to be involved in splinter groups, which are 3-5 week groups that cover information presented in the Brain Boosters group in more detail. Current splinter groups cover topics such as insomnia/nightmare imagery, communication skills, memory strategies, and stress management. Possible opportunities for research with this population may also be available.

The psychology intern will also have an opportunity to be involved in the TBI Clinic. The TBI Clinic is a screening clinic for OEF/OIF/OND veterans who have sustained head injuries during deployment. The clinical interview is conducted jointly with a physician. Next, the veteran undergoes a neuropsychological screening evaluation by the neuropsychologist or neuropsychology

intern. Finally, the veteran completes a medical evaluation with the physician. Interns will have the opportunity to present the cases during the weekly interdisciplinary staffing meeting.

Although the great majority of referrals in this rotation involve OEF/OIF/OND veterans, there will be occasional opportunities to work with elder populations to determine decision making capacity, etiology of memory loss, appropriate placement options, etc. Also available will be occasional referrals from Vocational Rehabilitation and from Inpatient Medical and Psychiatric floors.

PTSD/MENTAL HEALTH TRACK

POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD) CLINIC

The PTSD Clinical Team (PCT) provides specialized assessment and psychotherapy (individual and group) for veterans suffering from military-related post-traumatic stress disorder including combat, sexual or physical assault, natural disasters, and life-threatening accidents that occur during military service. The PCT serves veterans from all warzones and conflicts, including World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf War, Lebanon, Somalia, Panama, Grenada, Bosnia/Kosovo, OEF (Afghanistan) and OIF (Iraq). The PCT also offers specialized services to veterans who are struggling with addictive disorders that co-occur with their PTSD. Therapies offered are generally cognitive-behavioral in orientation, and include empirically supported therapies for PTSD (Cognitive Processing Therapy, Prolonged Exposure, Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing, Seeking Safety, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia, and Cognitive Behavioral Conjoint Therapy for couples with PTSD), in addition to coping skills training classes, and anger management.

Psychology interns would have the opportunity to conduct intake evaluations with warzone veterans, provide individual psychotherapy for PTSD, co-lead a CPT or couples psychotherapy group, lead anger management groups, and teach coping skills classes that provide education on trauma-related symptoms. There are also some opportunities for interns interested in program evaluation.

PTSD CLINIC: TRAUMA-BASED TREATMENTS, I.E., COGNITIVE PROCESSING THERAPY (CPT), PROLONGED EXPOSURE THERAPY (PE), EYE MOVEMENT DESENSITIZATION AND REPROCESSING (EMDR), AND AUXILIARY TREATMENTS, COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL THERAPY-INSOMNIA (CBT-I), IMAGERY REHEARSAL THERAPY (IRT) SUPERVISING PSYCHOLOGIST: TIM S. AYERS, Ph.D.

This major or minor rotation provides psychology interns the opportunity to develop skills in assessment, trauma-based treatments and brief psychotherapy for related conditions (e.g., substance abuse, insomnia, and nightmares). Psychology interns work closely with Dr. Ayers to prepare Veterans for trauma based treatments (e.g. Seeking Safety, CBT-I, and Coping Interventions) and/or to administer one of the evidence based trauma treatments (CPT, PE and EMDR) offered within the clinic. Finally, Dr. Ayers work focuses on sleep based interventions such as Group Based CBT-Insomnia and Imagery Rehearsal Therapy for nightmares.

PTSD CLINIC: TRAUMA-BASED TREATMENTS, I.E., COGNITIVE PROCESSING THERAPY (CPT), PROLONGED EXPOSURE THERAPY (PE), COGNITIVE-BEHAVIORAL CONJOINT THERAPY (CBCT), MINDFULNESS-BASED COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL CONJOINT THERAPY (MB-CBCT)
SUPERVISING PSYCHOLOGIST: BRANDI LUEDTKE, PSY.D.

Dr. Brandi Luedtke will supervise students in the evaluation and treatment of veterans participating in the Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Clinic. Interns will have the opportunity to learn and administer gold-standard diagnostic interviews for PTSD diagnosis including the Clinician Administered PTSD Scale for DSM-5 (CAPS-5) and PTSD Checklist (PCL-5). This rotation offers unique opportunities to bridge services in behavioral medicine with opportunities to learn Evidence Based Psychotherapies (EBPs) such as Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT), Cognitive-Behavioral Conjoint Therapy, Prolonged Exposure Therapy; as well as progress from observer to co-therapist (with Dr. Luedtke) in Mindfulness-Based Cognitive-Behavioral Conjoint Therapy for PTSD (MB-CBCT). Interns will have opportunities to educate veterans, staff, and the community about signs, symptoms, and treatment of PTSD. Finally, the intern will have the opportunity to attend and participate in the multi-disciplinary PTSD Clinical Team Meetings.

Roles and responsibilities of interns in this rotation include the following:

- Managing a caseload of individual psychotherapy patients
- Utilization of evidence-based interventions (e.g., CPT, PE, CBCT, EMDR, Motivational Interviewing etc) to promote both physical and mental health
- Facilitating and/or co-facilitating group psychotherapy. Groups offered include but are not limited to: CORE education classes, Cognitive Behavioral Conjoint Therapy for PTSD Group; Acceptance and Commitment Therapy Group; Men's and/or Women's Seeking Safety Group, Men's and/or Women's CPT group
- Conducting diagnostic psychological assessments
- Attending and actively participating multidisciplinary treatment team meetings
- Learning and utilizing brief, time-limited evidence-based psychotherapies

Integrated Training Experiences include: Individual, couples, group and family therapies will be available training modalities in this rotation.

PTSD CLINIC: PTSD ASSESSMENT, EVIDENCE-BASED PSYCHOTHERAPIES FOR TRAUMA-RELATED SYMPTOMS (CPT, PE), TELEMENTAL HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION, THERAPY-OUTCOME RESEARCH

SUPERVISING PSYCHOLOGIST: KAREN KATTAR, PSY.D.

This major or minor rotation provides an opportunity to learn and develop competency in assessment and treatment of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Interns in this rotation will attend a formal training workshop on CPT conducted by Dr. Kattar, a National Trainer for CPT, and participate in CPT groups and individual therapy. The intern would work closely with Dr. Kattar to obtain "provider status" in the model. Interns can gain experience in treatment delivery via telemental health, an innovative way to reach veterans who cannot come to the main hospital for care. Additionally, the intern would participate in a class series designed to prepare the veteran for trauma-focused treatment. Since Dr. Kattar's duties as the PTSD Clinic Director and Psychology Section Chief require administrative duties, the intern is invited to attend committees and assist with these duties to learn program development and organizational practices. Other opportunities

include participating in treatment outcome research with Dr. Kattar who is currently collaborating in research with other VAs looking at the role of supportive persons/family members in veteran's PTSD treatment. Interns interested in therapy research may also assist with our upcoming collaborative study comparing CPT and PE in a VA setting.

<u>OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM/OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM/OPERATION NEW DAWN (OEF/OIF/OND) CLINIC SUPERVISING PSYCHOLOGIST</u>: ADRIANA WEYER, Ph.D.

The OEF/OIF/OND clinic addresses the specific needs of the nation's newest combat veterans. The objective of the OEF/OIF/OND clinic is to provide the support necessary for the veteran and his/her family to readjust, recover and be optimally functioning after returning from combat. A multidisciplinary approach is utilized in the OEF/OIF/OND clinic, as medical, mental health, and specialty clinic providers collaborate to provide seamless transition care for the veterans. Medical providers use emerging national data to ensure appropriate evaluation during OEF/OIF/OND initial patient exams. Mental health providers conduct comprehensive evaluations on OEF/OIF/OND veterans in the medical center. Occupational, relational, and emotional adjustment is assessed during these evaluations – including assessment for post-traumatic stress, anxiety, anger, substance abuse, and depression. Veterans are referred to appropriate services, including assessment for psychotropic medications as well as individual, group, and marriage/family psychotherapy.

Psychology interns participating in this major or minor rotation would have opportunity to conduct initial mental health evaluations on returning veterans, as well as provide individual psychotherapy targeting PTSD or other readjustment issues. Psychology interns will also have an opportunity to co-facilitate an OEF/OIF/OND Readjustment Group and to participate in a hospital wide committee, Root Cause Analysis, that conducts psychological autopsies on veterans who have attempted or completed suicide.

MENTAL HEALTH THERAPY AND ASSESSMENT CLINIC

As noted above, all interns complete at least one 6-month minor rotation (12 hours per week) in the outpatient mental health clinic. During this rotation they will spend at least 4 hours a week completing assessments. Assessments will include diagnostic intake interviews and psychological testing as indicated. Interns should expect to complete a minimum of 2-3 formal psychological assessments with testing within the 6-month rotation. The additional 8 hours of time will be spent treating patients in the general mental health population, and completing administrative requirements. This rotation offers interns the opportunity to gain experience in the use of several evidence-based psychotherapies that treat depression, anxiety and/or post-traumatic stress disorder. Interns will develop the ability to conceptualize and create treatment plans for veterans who often have complex issues and/or may have co-morbid diagnoses. There are opportunities to work with individuals with presenting personality structures that make treatment adherence difficult. This rotation also affords interns the opportunity to conduct group psychotherapy in such areas as DBT, Anger Management, Behavioral Activation, Domestic Violence and CBT-Depression and Anxiety. Collaboration with mental health staff, including psychiatry, nursing and social work is also an exciting part of this rotation.

GENERAL MENTAL HEALTH:

SUPERVISING PSYCHOLOGIST: SPENCER T. BECK, PSY.D.

Psychology interns participating in the Dialectical Behavior Therapy rotation offered as a major or minor rotation would have the opportunity to provide individual psychotherapy targeting Borderline PD or other pervasive personality issues. Psychology interns will also have an opportunity to co-facilitate a DBT skills group held weekly for six months. The interns would also be a part of the DBT consultation team and meet weekly to discuss suicidal cases, therapist burnout, and skills groups. Phone coaching would also be offered on a limited basis by the psychology interns following VA guidance and supervision to enhance skill building.

GENERAL MENTAL HEALTH:

SUPERVISING PSYCHOLOGIST: KATHRYN DOYLE, PH.D.

This major or minor rotation provides psychology interns with the opportunity to expand their skills in both group and individual therapy skills with an outpatient mental health population. Interns also have the opportunity to work with Dr. Doyle to increase their awareness of and confidence in using evidence-based psychotherapies to treat, depression, anxiety, PTSD, and personality disorders. After obtaining a level of competence, interns have the opportunity to cofacilitate their own DBT skills group for people without a personality disorder and a CBT Coping Skills group for depression and anxiety. Psychology interns working on this rotation with Dr. Doyle will also benefit from identifying and responding effectively to emergent clinical crises and collaborate with professionals across disciplines to address these veteran concerns. Additionally, interns on this rotation actively collaborate with several therapists across the hospital system and are able to witness their differing psychotherapy styles.

GENERAL MENTAL HEALTH:

SUPERVISING PSYCHOLOGIST: TYLER GABRIEL, Ph.D.

This major or minor rotation provides psychology interns with the opportunity to expand their skills in both group and individual therapy skills with an outpatient mental health population. Interns have the opportunity to work with Dr. Gabriel to increase their awareness of and confidence in using evidence-based psychotherapies to treat, depression, anxiety, PTSD, and personality disorders. Interns will also have the opportunity to co-facilitate an Evidence-Based Domestic Violence Treatment group for veterans and assist in managing the DV Treatment Program. Psychology interns will also have the option of co-facilitating a DBT skills group in the residential drug treatment program, and conducting psychological evaluations as needed.

GENERAL MENTAL HEALTH:

SUPERVISING PSYCHOLOGIST: LEANNE GRANT, PH.D.

This major or minor rotation provides psychology interns with opportunities to learn tools in order to treat anxiety disorders, depressive disorders, non-combat related PTSD, and personality disorders within a diverse, outpatient, mental health population. Interns will have the opportunity to work with Dr. Grant to increase their awareness of and confidence in using evidence-based psychotherapies, such as Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy (MBCT), and Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT). Interns will have an opportunity to cofacilitate DBT Skills Group, Pathfinder Group, and Mindfulness Group. While working with Dr.

Grant, interns will become a part of an interdisciplinary treatment team (with psychiatric providers, nurses, and social workers) to assess and engage in treatment planning with veterans presenting to the walk-in clinic one day per week.

GENERAL MENTAL HEALTH:

SUPERVISING PSYCHOLOGIST: MARIA HAMILTON, PSY.D.

This major or minor rotation provides psychology interns with the opportunity to expand their skills in both group and individual therapy with an outpatient mental health population. Interns will have the opportunity to further develop and broaden their diagnostic and treatment skills as they work with an interdisciplinary team to provide evidenced based psychotherapy. In addition, Dr. Hamilton will work with interns to help them further identify and develop their own therapeutic identity and gain confidence in their clinical skills.

GENERAL MENTAL HEALTH:

SUPERVISING PSYCHOLOGIST: ANDREA C. HEKLER, Ph.D.

This major or minor rotation exposes psychology interns to veterans with a diversity of mental health problems including insomnia, depression, PTSD related to non-military trauma, anxiety disorders, and personality disorders. Interns will enhance their ability to implement evidence-based psychotherapy within individual and group settings. They will co-facilitate one or more of the following groups with Dr. Hekler: CBT group for individuals with insomnia, a DBT skills group for people without a personality disorder, and an anger management group. Those interns who are interested will assist in developing, implementing, and evaluating a CBT group for binge-eating disorder. Interns will be expected to engage in ongoing program evaluation of the effectiveness of the therapies they are providing both individually and in groups. Psychology interns working on this rotation with Dr. Hekler will also become part of the interprofessional treatment team (psychiatry, nursing, and social work) to assess and engage in treatment planning with veterans presenting to the walk-in clinic one day a week.

OTHER ROTATIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION

The Phoenix VAHCS has successfully recruited several new Psychology Positions. When possible, the executive training committee attempts to secure additional training opportunities that are consistent with the programs philosophy and goals that may round out a training experience for the intern.

PHOENIX VA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

PSYCHOLOGY TRAINING COMMITTEE

JENNIFER AVERYT, Ph.D.
Ohio University, 2012
Licensed Psychologist in Arizona
Primary Care - Mental Health Integration (PC-MHI)

Dr. Averyt is a psychologist in Primary Care - Mental Health Integration (PC-MHI) and also provides individual therapy within Health Psychology and General Mental Health. After completing her internship at the Phoenix VA, Dr. Averyt completed a two-year fellowship in clinical health psychology at Tripler Army Medical Center. She has also completed a postdoctoral M.S. in Clinical Psychopharmacology at the University of Hawaii College of Pharmacy. Dr. Averyt has training and experience in a variety of evidence-based psychotherapies including CBT for depression and anxiety, CBT for Insomnia, Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT), Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), Enhanced CBT (CBT-E) for eating disorders, and Motivational Interviewing. Her interests include self-management of chronic illness, health behavior change, psycho-oncology, chronic pain, sleep disorders, and eating disorders.

TIM S. AYERS, Ph.D. Arizona State University, 1991 Licensed Psychologist in Arizona (PTSD Clinical Team)

Dr. Ayers' theoretical orientation is cognitive-behavioral, with an emphasis on empirically-based treatments. He provides evaluation and individual and group psychotherapy to veterans with warzone-related PTSD. His primary interests are in the anxiety disorders, particularly OCD and PTSD. Dr. Ayers also has a background in prevention programming and clinical child psychology and prior to joining the VA held faculty appointments at Yale University and Arizona State University. He has interests in program evaluation, and the development of family-based interventions. In the past has received federal grants to carry out research on the impact of major stressors on families and the evaluation of prevention programs. Dr. Ayers is currently the Principal Investigator for a NIMH grant on a fourteen year follow up of a preventive intervention program called the Family Bereavement Program. Due to the efficacy of this program in long term follow up studies, Dr. Ayers has been contacted by the US Army Medical Research and Material Command expressing their interest in the redesign and delivery of this program to military families where there has been the death of a serviceperson.

SPENCER BECK, Psy.D.
Arizona School of Professional Psychology, 2010
Licensed Psychologist in Colorado & Utah
(Outpatient Mental Health)

Dr. Beck serves as the DBT program director for the Phoenix VA and has overseen the implementation and training of staff interested in working with veterans with Borderline Personality Disorder. He conducts individual DBT sessions and skills training groups as well as a

Mindfulness based group in the Outpatient Mental Health clinic. Dr. Beck is interested in suicide prevention and is active on the Suicide Emergency Committee (SEC) and the Suicide Root Cause Analysis (SRCA) committee. He completed his internship at the Colorado Mental Health Institute at Pueblo, Institute for Forensic Psychology where he was trained in DBT, risk evaluations, and competency evaluation. Dr. Beck maintains a limited consult service in Utah for Forensic Competency Evaluations.

LISA BURGESS, Ph.D. Arizona State University, 2005 Licensed Psychologist in Arizona (Health Behavior Coordinator)

Dr. Burgess is a Health Psychologist whose role is primarily with the Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Team as the Health Behavior Coordinator. The Health Behavior Coordinator develops and evaluates programs to enhance wellness for primarily Veterans, but also for VA employees. Involvement with facility-level policy and decision-making is integral to the role. There is also a clinical component consisting of smoking cessation, fitness and nutrition, and transplant evaluations. Dr. Burgess completed her predoctoral internship in Geropsychology at the Palo Alto VA Health Care System and then went on to a postdoctoral fellowship at this facility in Health Psychology. She was previously employed both in a local group practice and also at the Southern Arizona VA Health Care System. Dr. Burgess's orientation is primarily cognitive behavior with a focus on empirically supported treatments and common factors. Her interests include: adaptation to illness, healthy aging, stress and coping, grief and loss, motivational interviewing, and mindfulness-based interventions.

MARY LU BUSHNELL, Psy.D. Argosy University/Phoenix, 2006 Licensed Psychologist in Arizona (OEF/OIF/OND Neuropsychology)

Dr. Bushnell's clinical interests include Neuropsychology and cognitive rehabilitation. Duties include neuropsychological evaluation and consultation to the OEF/OIF/OND clinical team, TBI Clinic, medical inpatient units, and outpatient primary care clinics. Dr. Bushnell co-developed and co-leads the Brain Boosters cognitive enhancement group with Dr. Goren. Prior to joining the VA, Dr. Bushnell worked at a community agency where she conducted Neuropsychological evaluations, cognitive rehabilitation and psychotherapy with individuals with brain injury. She provides education regarding traumatic brain injury to organizations such as the Phoenix and Mesa Police departments, National Guard Medical Command, court system, vocational rehabilitation. Dr. Bushnell serves as a member of the Arizona Governor's Council on Spinal and Head Injuries. Finally, Dr. Bushnell is currently working on a study researching the efficacy of the facility's Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Clinic and a study to disentangle the relation between affective (emotional) and cognitive impairments in OEF/OIF veterans with TBI.

PEDRO R. CHOCA, Ph.D., L.I.S.A.C. University of Houston, 1977 Licensed Psychologist in Arizona Licensed Independent Substance Abuse Counselor in Arizona

Dr. Choca trained as a Clinical and Community Psychologist and has had a wide range of experience in several functions and roles. His orientation is primarily cognitive and behavioral with an emphasis in feedback informed therapy. After working as a program director in a community mental health center, Dr. Choca functioned for several years as a psychotherapist trained in the Biodyne Model. As a Center Director and Clinical Manager, he also enjoyed training and supervising other psychotherapists, while continuing to treat children and families, couples and individual adults as well as conducting psychotherapy groups. As a partner in a private practice group he was able to participate in the managing of a business as part of an interdisciplinary team. He also conducted assessment and evaluation services. He has expertise in a variety of evidence-based psychotherapies, including CBT, DBT, Motivational Interviewing, Crisis Intervention, Mindfulness Meditation and ACT. Early on, he was invited to work with a primary care physician, during which time, he developed an interest in integrated medical services. This culminated in his taking a fulltime position as Associate Professor in the Doctor of Behavioral Health Program at Arizona State University. After leaving that position, he joined the John C. Lincoln Arcadia Family Clinic, where he still practices for several hours a week. He also maintains a small private practice. As a Cuban American, he has had a life-long interest in cultural diversity, cultural adaptation and its effects on the family.

MIA DE LA ROSA-TRUJILLO, Ph.D.
Loma Linda University, 2008
Licensed Psychologist in Arizona and California
(General Neuropsychology)

Dr. De La Rosa's primary clinical interest is in neuropsychological conditions in the geriatric population including differential diagnosis of dementia. She also has interests in other conditions including head injury, MS, CVAs, and other neurological conditions affecting cognition. She is currently working in outpatient and inpatient settings conducting neuropsychological assessment of veterans from various referral sources including Psychiatry, Neurology, and the Specialty Clinics. Before joining the Phoenix staff in 2012, Dr. De La Rosa worked in California in a rehabilitation setting providing neuropsychological testing and treatment.

KATHRYN W. DOYLE, Ph.D. Arizona State University, 2000 Licensed Psychologist in Arizona (Outpatient Mental Health Clinic)

Dr. Doyle works in the Outpatient Mental Health clinic. Her treatment approach is primarily Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and she specializes in using Evidence-Based Practices to treat a myriad of disorders, including anxiety disorders, depression/mood disorders, and compulsive behaviors (e.g., skin picking, hair pulling, and addictive behaviors) in both individual and group formats. She serves as a training consultant for VA employees participating in the VACO sponsored CBT training initiative. Dr. Doyle completed a two-year post-doctoral research residency in public health and two-years of postdoctoral clinical training in utilizing CBT to treat obsessive-compulsive

disorder and other anxiety disorders. She worked for several years as research faculty at Arizona State University's Prevention Research Center prior to starting at the VA. That work focused on program development, evaluation and dissemination. She also successfully managed a private practice in Scottsdale.

TYLER GABRIEL, Ph.D.
University of California, Santa Barbara, 1991
Licensed Psychologist in California
Jade/Opal Clinic

Dr. Gabriel is a Clinical Psychologist at the Jade/Opal clinic and also in the Substance Abuse Rehabilitation and Recovery Treatment Program (SARRTP). Dr. Gabriel combines Cognitive-Developmental and Solution-Focused theoretical orientations, and he provides Evidenced-based CBT and DBT treatment here at the Phoenix, VA. He arrived at the VA in 2012, after having worked in a variety of treatment settings. Dr. Gabriel started his career at the University of San Diego, Counseling Center where he rose to Clinical Director and Adjunct Faculty in the School of Education during his 15-year tenure there. He then worked in the California State prison system and also as a department manager for United Behavioral Health in quality assurance/utilization management. Dr. Gabriel specializes in the brief therapy treatment of mood disorders, PTSD and substance abuse, and focuses his approach to empower his clients and maximize their capacity for resilience. Since his arrival at the VA, Dr. Gabriel was tasked with evaluating, developing and implementing a Domestic Violence treatment program for Court-ordered Vets, and is co-facilitating the Relationship Skills group. Dr. Gabriel co-facilitates DBT Skills groups as part of the DBT treatment program, and also co-facilitates a Seeking Safety and PATH group in the SARRTP program. Dr. Gabriel has additional interests in Eriksonian hypnotherapy, Sport Psychology/performance enhancement, and cultural and ethnic identity development.

JESSIE GARCIA, Ph.D.
Arizona State University, 2002
Licensed Psychologist in Arizona & California
(Outpatient Mental Health Clinic – Scottsdale CBOC)

Dr. Garcia, a veteran of the Army Reserves, works in the Outpatient Mental Health clinic. He primarily works within a CBT framework with an emphasis on evidence-based practices. Dr. Garcia has received advanced training on VA-approved treatment protocols from the VA in CPT and CBT. His particular clinical interests are in depression and anxiety, particularly PTSD and GAD, and anger issues. Year-round he facilitates an anger management group based on evidence-based practices. Dr. Garcia has diverse clinical experiences working in such settings as at the university, community, and private practice levels. He continues to run a small private practice in Scottsdale as well as volunteers his time to AZ families who have special needs children with their adjustment process to life changing diagnoses. He is also Spanish-speaking with a depth and breadth of lived multicultural experiences. He is very active with the diversity internship training.

LEANNE GRANT, Psy.D.. California School of Professional Psychology, 2006 Licensed Psychologist in Arizona (Outpatient Mental Health Clinic)

Dr. Grant works in the Outpatient Mental Health Clinic (Jade/Opal). Her treatment approach is primarily humanistic, utilizing interventions from Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT). She specializes in using Evidence-Based Practice to treat anxiety disorders, depressive disorders, and Borderline Personality Disorder, in both individual and group formats. Dr. Grant has previously worked at Arizona State University, in the Counseling Center, and has experience supervising interns and post-doctoral residents. Dr. Grant also has extensive experience in treating PTSD with survivors of sexual assault/abuse and domestic violence in a community mental health program.

MARIA HAMILTON, Psy.D
The Forest Institute of Professional Psychology, 2002
Licensed Clinical Psychologist in Arkansas
(Inpatient Mental Health)

Dr. Hamilton works in the Outpatient Mental Health Clinic. Her theoretical orientation is predominantly Humanistic, utilizing a mix of interventions from the Cognitive Behavioral, Interpersonal, and Insight Oriented disciplines based on the needs of the individual being treated. Dr. Hamilton's diverse career as a psychologist includes working in the areas of addiction, child and adolescent treatment, rural mental health care, psychological testing, crisis management, clinical supervision, community mental health, and correctional mental health. Most recently she managed the substance abuse treatment programs for the Federal Bureau of Prisons here in Phoenix. She is well versed in the Therapeutic Community model of substance abuse treatment, having developed and implemented the Modified Therapeutic Community Residential Drug Abuse Program at the medium security federal institution in Phoenix. Dr. Hamilton also has extensive treatment experience working with psychopathy using the work of Samenow to identify and treat criminal thinking patterns in male and female offenders. In addition she participated in the National Health Service Corp (NHSC) program, whose mission is to provide needed health care to underserved populations. During her initial contract with the NHSC Dr. Hamilton provided outpatient treatment and psychological testing services predominantly to children and adolescents in six counties in rural Arkansas. She was a lead therapist and developed therapeutic after school and summer programs during that time. Dr. Hamilton is a recognized clinical supervisor by the Arkansas Board of Psychology and has an interest in the areas of depression, parenting, program development, and clinical supervision.

ANDREA HEKLER, Ph.D.
University of Arizona, 2008
Licensed Psychologist in Arizona & California
(Outpatient Mental Health)

Dr. Hekler provides evidence based psychotherapy to veterans in the outpatient mental health clinic. She was trained in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Interpersonal Psychotherapy over the course of her doctoral training at the University of Arizona and clinical internship at the Salem

Veterans Affairs Medical Center. A postdoctoral fellowship at Stanford University prepared Dr. Hekler to become certified in Behavioral Sleep Medicine by the American Board of Sleep Medicine and to serve as a consultant on the VA's national training initiative for mental health clinicians to provide CBT for Insomnia. Prior to joining the Phoenix VA, Dr. Hekler was employed as a staff psychologist co-located in a primary care clinic at Arizona State University providing psychotherapy to students, faculty, and staff with a variety of mental health problems including depression, PTSD related to sexual assault and childhood sexual abuse, social anxiety, and eating disorders. Dr. Hekler continues to conduct research and publish with colleagues on projects involving women's mental health and on the development and evaluation of phone apps to enhance healthful behaviors. Interests include sleep disorders, anxiety disorders, eating disorders, women's health, evidence-based psychotherapy, and program evaluation.

DANIELLE HERNANDEZ, Ph.D. West Virginia University, 2005 Licensed Psychologist in Arizona (PTSD Clinical Team – Southeast CBOC)

Dr. Hernandez provides individual and group psychotherapy as part of the PTSD Clinical Team and treats patients at both the main hospital and the Southeast Extension Clinic, located in Mesa, AZ. Her theoretical orientation is cognitive behavioral, with a focus on empirically validated treatments. In addition to clinical duties, Dr. Hernandez is a Prolonged Exposure consultant for the National Center for PTSD Prolonged Exposure Initiative and provides consultation to clinicians who are in the process of being certified to use Prolonged Exposure therapy to treat PTSD. Before joining the PTSD Clinical Team, Dr. Hernandez was the Home Based Primary Care team (HBPC) psychologist and provided psychotherapy and brief cognitive assessment for home bound veterans who received care from the multidisciplinary HBPC team. Prior to working for the VA, Dr. Hernandez had a variety of experiences, which included pre-employment psychological assessment for local law enforcement agencies as well as in home psychological services and behavior planning for individuals with serious mental illness and developmental disabilities.

KAREN KATTAR, PSY.D.

Minnesota School of Professional Psychology, 2002
Licensed Psychologist in Minnesota
Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Clinical Team (PCT)

Dr. Kattar is a clinical psychologist and Clinic Director of the Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Clinical Team where she provides therapy and assessment for the treatment of trauma-related symptoms and manages administrative duties for the team. She serves as the lead PTSD Mentor for VISN 18. She is a National Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT: an evidence-based cognitive-behavioral therapy for trauma-related symptoms) Trainer for the Veterans Affairs Office of Mental Health and travels nationwide conducting workshops for the dissemination of CPT throughout the VA system, as well as the Department of Defense, and the private sector. She coordinates the Phoenix VA Cognitive Processing Therapy program and training clinic, and conducts therapy outcome research. As Clinic Director, Dr. Kattar coordinates the PCT intern rotation experience, but does not serve as a direct supervisor. Interns can gain experience with CPT working directly with Dr. Kattar by participating in her 3-day CPT workshop on site followed by co-leading a CPT group. She utilizes both CPT and Prolonged Exposure (PE) models in her work. Before transferring to the Phoenix VA

in 2009, Dr. Kattar was on staff at the Minneapolis VAMC and served as the Psychotherapy Evidence-Based Coordinator, Assistant Training Director, and held appointments as Assistant Professor of Psychology at the University of Minnesota and Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Minnesota Medical School. She has published on PTSD in journals and book chapters and often serves as an invited speaker at national PTSD conferences.

KRIS KRATZ, Ph.D., ABPP(CL); ABPP (CN) Fuller Graduate School of Psychology, 2000 Licensed Psychologist in Arizona (OIF/OEF and General Neuropsychology)

Dr. Kratz's clinical interests primarily include traumatic brain injury, baseline and clinical evaluations for those in high risk occupations (i.e. aviation, special operations), and dementia. Duties include outpatient and inpatient neuropsychological evaluations, ratings, and the traumatic brain injury clinic. Before joining the Phoenix VA staff in 2011, Dr. Kratz spent two years as the director of neuropsychology services for a local neurology practice. Prior to this, he spent 10 years in the U.S. Army as a psychologist/neuropsychologist, and has several deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

BRANDI L. LUEDTKE, Psy.D., HSPP University of Indianapolis, 2010 Licensed Psychologist in Indiana (PTSD Clinical Team)

Dr. Luedtke is a Clinical Psychologist in the Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Clinical Team (PCT Team). Her main interests are in complex mental illness, particularly PTSD, and in the integration of third-wave behavior therapies, such as Mindfulness-based interventions, into evidence-based psychotherapies. Following internship at the Cincinnati VA and prior to coming to the Phoenix VA in 2015, she served as Project Director/Co-Investigator of a VA-grant funded study entitled, "Mindfulness-based Cognitive Behavioral Conjoint Therapy for PTSD and Relationship Function" in which she assisted in the development and implementation of a randomized control trial of a mindfulness-based cognitive behavioral couples therapy intervention for OEF/OIF/OND veterans and their intimate partners at the Roudebush VA Medical Center in Indianapolis, IN. She has published in the areas of PTSD and schizophrenia disorders. Dr. Luedtke also serves as a National Cognitive Behavioral Conjoint Therapy for PTSD Trainer for the Veterans Affairs Office of Mental Health and travels nationwide conducting workshops for the dissemination of CBCT throughout the VA system, as well as the Department of Defense.

MAHSAW ELICIA NADEMIN, Ph.D. Catholic University of America, 2007 Licensed Psychologist in Arizona (Home Based Primary Care Psychology)

Dr. Nademin practices from a cognitive-behavioral theoretical orientation with an emphasis on empirically-validated treatments. Dr. Nademin works in Home-Based Primary Care, where she

provides psychotherapy and brief cognitive assessment for largely home-bound geriatric population of veterans who receive care from a multidisciplinary HBPC team. Dr. Nademin also chairs the Diversity Committee at the Phoenix VA, wherein she works alongside Dr. Pedro Choca in providing didactic training and consultation to our psychology interns and postdoctoral residents. Dr. Nademin previously served on the faculty of Midwestern University and Argosy University, educating doctoral students in Clinical Psychology and treating patients at Midwestern University's multidisciplinary clinic. Dr. Nademin also manages a part-time private practice, has served as the past Diversity Committee chair and Diversity Representative to the governing council of the Arizona Psychological Association (AzPA) and is currently Membership Committee Chair and Membership Representative of AzPA.

HEATHER A. OKVAT, Ph.D. Arizona State University, 2011 Licensed Psychologist in New York (Health Psychology)

Dr. Okvat is the psychologist with the VA's interdisciplinary Chronic Pain Management Program. Within chronic pain, her clinical, program development, and research interests center on the mindbody relationship, mindfulness, and community gardening for overall health and well-being. Dr. Okvat's theoretical orientation is cognitive-behavioral and mindfulness-based. Following internship at the New Mexico VA, she completed a post-doctoral fellowship in Behavioral Medicine at the Boston VA. Dr. Okvat is an adjunct faculty member at Rutgers University's School of Health-Related Professions. She previously conducted research in complementary and alternative medicine.

JOELLE OIZUMI, Ph.D.
University of North Texas, 1996
Licensed Psychologist in Arizona
(Outpatient Mental Health, Health Psychology)

Dr. Oizumi currently functions as the psychologist at the Southeast Extension Clinic in Mesa, Arizona. She primarily provides individual psychotherapy for various mental health issues on an outpatient basis. Her theoretical orientation is cognitive-behavioral and interpersonal. She provides psychotherapy to mental health and Health Psychology patients. She conducts psychological evaluations for diagnostic and treatment purposes. Her primary clinical interest is in working with veterans with warzone-related PTSD and depression. Dr. Oizumi is an adjunct faculty member at Rio Salado and Everest Colleges. She has previously conducted disability evaluations at the VA and in the private sector. She has conducted fitness to parent evaluations for Child Protective Services. She worked in correctional psychology prior to coming to the VA in 1997.

KAREN OLSON, Ph.D.
Seattle Pacific University, 2007
Licensed Psychologist in Arizona and Washington
(General Neuropsychology)

Dr. Olson specializes in neuropsychological assessment, neurorehabilitation, and psychotherapy for individuals with conditions that affect the brain and/or spinal cord. At the Phoenix VA, Dr. Olson

focuses primarily on neuropsychological assessment, consultation, and education for individuals with known or suspected neurological conditions. Prior to her experience at the VA, Dr. Olson worked in comprehensive neurorehabilitation and in private practice.

KERRI F. SALAMANCA, Ph.D.
University of Illinois at Chicago, 1992
Licensed Psychologist in Arizona and Indiana HSPP
(PTSD Clinical Team)

Dr. Salamanca currently works for the Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Clinical Team and is located in the Thunderbird CBOC. She provides treatment to Veterans with trauma from any origin including non-combat, combat and military sexual trauma. Her primary clinical approach is to focus on the therapeutic relationship as a major tool of change and use of exposure therapy to effect emotional and behavioral change. Dr. Salamanca provides evidence based treatment for PTSD using Prolonged Exposure Therapy, Cognitive Processing Therapy and Cognitive Behavioral Conjoint Therapy. Dr. Salamanca has a special interest in teaching supervision. She developed the Supervision Clinic for the VA internship in conjunction with the Vet Center, and provides supervision of supervision for the VA interns. She also has an interest in behavioral medicine and has provided interventions in smoking cessation, weight management, pain management, patient treatment compliance and health behavior change.

KRISTY STRAITS-TROSTER, Ph.D., ABPP

University of California, San Diego & San Diego State University Joint Doctoral Program
Licensed Psychologist in North Carolina and Washington
Primary Care Mental Health Integration (PC-MHI)

Dr. Straits-Troster is a Clinical Health Psychologist and Behavioral Health Director of the Primary Care Mental Health Integration Program at the Phoenix VA, where she provides CBT-based therapy and assessment for mental health conditions first presenting in Primary Care. She collaborates with the VISN 6 Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Center based in Durham, NC where she previously served as Assistant Director. Her work there included developing best practices and community education focused on post-deployment mental health, recent completion of a DoDfunded study on implementation of multi-family group treatment for combat survivors of TBI and their families, and she and continues to serve as adjunct faculty with Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Duke University. She collaborates with the VA Office of Public Health and Prevention in the development of tobacco use cessation services tailored for returning combat Veterans. Dr. Straits-Troster's research and clinical interests include prevention of chronic illness and infectious disease, treatment of PTSD, substance abuse and co-occurring conditions.

LESLIE TELFER, Ph.D.

University Center at Albany, State University of New York, 1991 Licensed Psychologist in Arizona and California (Chair of Psychology Department) (PTSD Clinical Team)

Dr. Telfer is the Chair of the Psychology Department. Her theoretical orientation is behavioral, with an emphasis on empirically-based treatments. In addition to overseeing the department, she also provides evaluation and individual and group psychotherapy to veterans with warzone-related PTSD. Her main interests are in the anxiety disorders, particularly PTSD, and in the third-wave behavior therapies, such as Acceptance and Commitment Therapy. Following internship at the Palo Alto, she completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the National Center for PTSD and served on the staff there. Before coming to the PTSD Clinical Team in 2007, she provided behavioral medicine and general mental health services in the VA Primary Care extension clinic located in Sun City for several years. She has published in the area of anxiety disorders.

GINA WALTERS, Ph.D.
Texas Tech University, 1998
Licensed Psychologist in Arizona
(General Neuropsychology)

Dr. Walters' primary clinical interest is in Neuropsychology. She is particularly interested in differential diagnosis of dementia, head injury, and psychiatric disorders. Duties include outpatient and inpatient neuropsychological assessment of veterans from various referral sources including Psychiatry, Neurology, and the Specialty Clinics. Before joining the Phoenix staff in 2001, Dr. Walters worked in a rehabilitation setting providing neuropsychological testing and treatment.

ADRIANA TARAZÓN WEYER, Ph.D. Arizona State University, 2003 Licensed Psychologist in Arizona (OEF/OIF/OND Post-Deployment Clinic)

Dr. Weyer conducts comprehensive mental health evaluations for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF/OIF/OND) veterans. She collaborates with medical providers and specialty clinics to coordinate care and provide seamless transition services to OEF/OIF/OND veterans. She also provides individual and group psychotherapy targeting readjustment issues and combat trauma. Theoretical orientation is eclectic with emphasis on evidence based treatments including Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing Therapy (EMDR), Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT), Prolonged Exposure (PE) and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT). As a member of the Root Cause Analysis (RCA) committee for suicide, she is active in clinical services focusing on suicide risk assessment and prevention. She is also a member of the Psychology Department's Diversity subcommittee. She provides education and training on PTSD to local police departments, the Maricopa County court system, vocational rehabilitation and other community organizations.

MATTHEW WEYER, Ph.D. Arizona State University, 1997 Licensed Psychologist in Arizona (Health Psychology)

Dr. Weyer is the Training Director of the Psychology Internship Program. He has completed evidence based training in Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT), Motivational Interviewing (MI) and Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing Therapy (EMDR). His clinical interests include intervention and treatment of medical patients. Clinical responsibilities include assessment, individual psychotherapy, and psycho-educational groups. He coordinates the CBT-Insomnia and CBT-Tinnitus coping skills groups. His theoretical orientation is eclectic with a cognitive-behavioral emphasis. He sub-specializes in clinical hypnosis and EMDR and leads a weekly self-study group for the psychology interns.

2014-2015 PSYCHOLOGY INTERNS

JUSTIN BOLAND, Ph.D.

New Mexico State University

Interprofessional Mental Health

Postdoctoral Fellowship in PCMHI: New Mexico State University

AMANDA GORLICK, Ph.D.

Loma Linda University

Health Psychology

Postdoctoral Position: San Diego VA Health Care System

EMILY HENNRICH, Psy.D.

Arizona State University

PTSD/Mental Health

Postdoctoral Position: UCSD Eating Disorders Center for Treatment and Research

COURTNEY KELSCH, Ph.D.

University of Miami

Health Psychology

Postdoctoral Position: Boston VA Health Care System

Tom Kiely, Ph.D.

Palo Alto University

Neuropsychology

Postdoctoral Neuropsychology Position (Year 1): Mind and Brain Laboratory: Ray Dolby Brain

Health Center at the CPMC Neurosciences Institute

EARL THORNDYKE III, Ph.D.

Loma Linda University

Neuropsychology

Postdoctoral Neuropsychology Position (Year 1): UCLA Semel Institute

CHANIGA VORASARUN, Psy.D.

PGSP- Stanford Psy.D. Consortium Program

PTSD/Mental Health

Postdoctoral Position: Palo Alto VA Health Care System

2013-2014 PSYCHOLOGY INTERNS

KIMBERLY BAERRESEN, Ph.D.

Loma Linda University

Neuropsychology

Postdoctoral Neuropsychology Position (Year 2): Long Beach VA Health Care System

KRISTEN GIERUT, Psy.D.

Illinois School of Professional Psychology, Chicago

Neuropsychology

Postdoctoral Neuropsychology Position (Year 2): Barrows Neurological Institute

JENNA GRESS SMITH, Ph.D.

Arizona State University

Health Psychology

Staff Psychologist in Primary Care-Mental Health Integration at Phoenix VAHCS

NATASHA MROCZEK, Psy.D.

Florida Institute of Technology

Health Psychology

Staff Psychologist in Primary Care-Mental Health Integration: Memphis VA Health Care System

ANDREA SAATHOFF, Ph.D.

University of Texas - Austin

Interprofessional Mental Health

Staff Psychologist Position in Primary Care-Mental Health Integration at Phoenix VAHCS

BRITTANY SHOEMAKER, Psy.D.

Loma Linda University

PTSD/Mental Health

Staff Psychologist Position in the PTSD clinic at Phoenix VAHCS

BIBI STANG, Ph.D.

Palo Alto University

Neuropsychology

Postdoctoral Neuropsychology Position (Year 2): Barrows Neurological Institute

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